Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 189369

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R 222032Z SEP 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 189369

EXDIS

FOLLOWING MESSAGE (DTG R/221237Z SEP 73) FROM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO JIDDA, LONDON, NEW DELHI, AMMAN, TEHRAN, AND SANAA REPEATED TO YOU

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 3444

EXDIS

DEPT PASS SECDEF FOR ISA

DEPT PASS USCINCEUR

NEW DELHI HOLD FOR QUINLAN ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MU MARR MASS
SUBJ: VISIT OF COLONELS MALONEY AND FIFER TO OM

REF: STATE 150567

SUMMARY: COLS. MALONEY AND FIFER CORRIED OUT AN UNUSUALLY SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO OMAN SEPT 5-19. END SUMMARY CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 189369

1. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THEIR ARRIVAL IN MUSCAT SEPT 5 COL. GEORGE MALONEY, DOD, AND COL. FIFER, AMEMBASSY JIDDA, JOINED MAJ. GEN. CREASEY, COMMANDER OF SULTAN'S ARMED FORCES (SAF), IN ALL-DAY ORIENTATION ON SAF

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

ORGANIZATION, OBJECTIVES AND PROBLEM AREAS.

SUBSEQUENTLY, FIVE DAYS WERE SPENT IN DHOFAR WITH BRIGADIER FLETCHER ON A COMPREHENSIVE TOUR THAT INCLUDED ALL POSITIONS AND FACILITIES OF ALL SERVICES AND ALL FORCES TO INCLUDE IRANIANS. BRITISH COMMENTED THAT THEY FOUND THIS PERIOD PROFESSIONALLY VERY REWARDING.

3. THROUGHOUT VISIT NUMEROUS CALLS WERE MADE ON OMANI, UK, SAUDI ARABIAN AND JORDANIAN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC OFFICIALS. NUMEROUS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FACILITIES WERE VISITED AS WELL AS SAF MILITARY UNITS AND TRAINING FACILITIES IN NORTHERN OMAN.

4. A NUMBER OF SOCIAL EVENTS PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY FOR LENGTHY CONVERSATIONS WITH INFLUENTIAL OMANI AND FOREIGN OFFICIALS FROM EVERY SPECTRUM AND CONSIDERABLE VOLUME OF NEW INFORMATION AND INSIGHTS WAS OBTAINED, WHICH WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY.

5. COL. MALONEY WAS GRATIFIED BY EXCEPTIONALLY WARM RECEPTION FROM ALL PARTIES. HE COMMENTED THAT BRITISH SIMPLY COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MORE FORTHCOMING AND HELPFUL.

6. SULTAN QABOOS, WHO WAS ABSENT THROUGHOUT MAJOR PORTION OF VISIT, REQUESTED THAT VISITORS DELAY THEIR DEPARTURE UNTIL HIS RETURN. IN LENGTHY AND EXCEPTIONALLY PLEASANT SESSION ON DEPARTURE DAY VISITORS RELATED THEIR IMPRESSIONS TO SULTAN, WHO WAS BOTH GRATEFUL AND RESPONSIVE.

7. CHARGE QUINLAN'S COMMENTS: IT IS CLEAR TO ME FROM TALKS I JOINED DURING STAY MALONEY AND FIFER IN MUSCAT AND THEIR ACCOUNTS OF THEIR FINDINGS IN DHOFAR, THAT VISIT WAS NOT ONLY NECESSARY RESPONSE TO GOVERNMENT OF

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OMAN'S CALL FOR MORE AMERICAN ATTENTION, BUT ALSO CONTRIBUTED TO LOCAL BRITISH/AMERICAN RELATIONS. VISITORS WERE NET WARMLY ON A PERSONAL LEVEL BY GENERAL CREASEY AND HIS STAFF BUT IT WAS CLEAR CREASEY DID NOT HAVE IN MIND MUCH MORE THAN A QUICK LOOK AT AREA AND MASS OF DATA. IT WAS LARGELY THROUGH PERSONAL PERSUASION AND RAPPORT DEVELOPED BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL BRITISH OFFICERS AND NALOMEY AND FIFER THAT MUCH-NEEDED EXTRA TIME WAS OFFERED IN DHOFAR AND ADDITIONAL PERSONAL INSIGHTS GAINED ON RETURN TO MUSCAT. FROM WHAT I HAVE BEEN TOLD, I BELIEVE THAT THE VISITORS' SUGGESTIONS AND EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WERE WELCOMED BY THE BRITISH MILITARY LEADERSHIP. COLONELS NALOMEY AND FIFER ARE AN IMPRESSIVE TEAM.

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

8. AMBASSADOR'S COMMENT: COLS. MALONEY AND FIFER DEBRIEFED
ME SEPT 19 (SEPTEL) AND DEPARTED KUWAIT SEPT 20 FOR JIDDA,
VIA BAHRAIN.
STOLTZFUS UNQTE KISSINGER

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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